

By Mr. KERRY:

S.J. Res. 36. A joint resolution providing a strategy for stabilizing Iraq and withdrawing United States troops; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. BIDEN):

S. Res. 469. A resolution condemning the April 25, 2006, beating and intimidation of Cuban dissident Martha Beatriz Roque; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. Res. 470. A resolution promoting a comprehensive political agreement in Iraq; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 22

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 22, a bill to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system.

S. 23

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 23, a bill to improve women's access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the delivery of obstetrical and gynecological services.

S. 58

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 58, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces are entitled to travel on such aircraft.

S. 241

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 241, a bill to amend section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 to provide that funds received as universal service contributions and the universal service support programs established pursuant to that section are not subject to certain provisions of title 31, United States Code, commonly known as the Antideficiency Act.

S. 311

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr.

AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 311, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide Medicaid coverage for low-income individuals infected with HIV.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 333, a bill to hold the current regime in Iran accountable for its threatening behavior and to support a transition to democracy in Iran.

S. 537

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 537, a bill to increase the number of well-trained mental health service professionals (including those based in schools) providing clinical mental health care to children and adolescents, and for other purposes.

S. 728

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 728, a bill to provide for the consideration and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 811

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 811, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

S. 1008

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1008, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to add meningococcal vaccines to the list of taxable vaccines for purposes of the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

S. 1035

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1035, a bill to authorize the presentation of commemorative medals on behalf of Congress to Native Americans who served as Code Talkers during foreign conflicts in which the United States was involved during the 20th century in recognition of the service of those Native Americans to the United States.

S. 1046

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1046, a bill to amend title 28, United

States Code, with respect to the jurisdiction of Federal courts over certain cases and controversies involving the Pledge of Allegiance.

S. 1062

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1062, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 1221

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1221, a bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employee's duty.

S. 1619

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1619, a bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to require local educational agencies and schools to implement integrated pest management systems to minimize the use of pesticides in schools and to provide parents, guardians, and employees with notice of the use of pesticides in schools, and for other purposes.

S. 1621

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1621, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the above-the-line deduction for teacher classroom supplies and to expand such deduction to include qualified professional development expenses.

S. 2025

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2025, a bill to promote the national security and stability of the United States economy by reducing the dependence of the United States on oil through the use of alternative fuels and new technology, and for other purposes.

S. 2079

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2079, a bill to improve the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to promptly implement recovery treatments in response to catastrophic events affecting the natural resources of Forest Service land and Bureau of Land Management Land, respectively, to support the recovery of non-Federal land damaged by catastrophic events, to assist impacted communities, to revitalize Forest Service experimental forests, and for other purposes.

S. 2429

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2429, a bill to authorize the President to waive the application of certain requirements under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 with respect to India.

S. 2503

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2503, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an extension of the period of limitation to file claims for refunds on account of disability determinations by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

S. 2548

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2548, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that State and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency.

S. 2554

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2554, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the permissible use of health savings accounts to include premiums for nongroup high deductible health plan coverage.

S. 2563

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2563, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require prompt payment to pharmacies under part D, to restrict pharmacy co-branding on prescription drug cards issued under such part, and to provide guidelines for Medication Therapy Management Services programs offered by prescription drug plans and MA-PD plans under such part.

S. 2642

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2642, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to add a provision relating to reporting and recordkeeping for positions involving energy commodities.

S. 2652

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2652, a bill to amend chapter 27 of title 18, United States code, to prohibit the unauthorized construction, financing, or, with reckless disregard, permitting the construction or use on one's land, of a tunnel or subterranean passageway between the United States and another country.

S. 2695

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Alabama

(Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2695, a bill to provide for Federal agencies to develop public access policies relating to research conducted by employees of that agency or from funds administered by that agency.

S. 2703

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2703, a bill to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

S. 2720

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2720, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to improve America's research competitiveness, and for other purposes.

S. 2721

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2721, a bill to simplify the taxation of business activity, and for other purposes.

S. 2747

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2747, a bill to enhance energy efficiency and conserve oil and natural gas, and for other purposes.

S. 2748

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2748, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives to promote energy production and conservation, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 16

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 16, a concurrent resolution conveying the sympathy of Congress to the families of the young women murdered in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, and encouraging increased United States involvement in bringing an end to these crimes.

S. RES. 320

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 320, a resolution calling the President to ensure that the foreign policy of the United States reflects appropriate understanding and sensitivity concerning issues related to human rights, ethnic cleansing, and genocide documented in the United States record relating to the Armenian Genocide.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 2759. A bill to provide for additional outreach and education related to the Medicare program and to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a special enrollment period for individuals who qualify for an income-related subsidy under the Medicare prescription drug program; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, today I am proud to file the Medicare Part D Outreach and Enrollment Enhancement Act of 2006. This timely piece of legislation addresses two very targeted administrative issues that have come to light since Medicare's new prescription drug benefit became effective earlier this year. I am also pleased that Senator BINGAMAN is joining on this bill.

With more than 30 million beneficiaries now receiving coverage through Medicare Part D, the program is well on its way to helping deliver much needed access to lower cost prescription drugs. And with the close of the initial enrollment period on May 15 looming, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and advocacy organizations across the country are working diligently to provide last minute assistance to those beneficiaries still wishing to enroll.

However, even after the May 15 deadline passes, beneficiaries will still need counsel on the program's benefits, including the availability of the low-income subsidy. For instance, dual eligible beneficiaries and those who previously received assistance through a Medicare Savings Program have the ability to change their prescription drug plan monthly. This particularly vulnerable group of beneficiaries likely will need extra assistance in choosing a plan that more appropriately meets their medical and financial needs.

There also are those beneficiaries who will age into Medicare throughout the year. They will be provided an initial enrollment period to choose a prescription drug plan once they turn age 65. And with the first regular enrollment cycle beginning in November, many beneficiaries will need advice as they evaluate new plan options or consider switching plans if their existing coverage has changed. We owe it to our seniors to provide them quality information so they can make the best possible prescription drug plan choice.

That is why I am asking for increased Part D outreach and education funding in the bill I am filing today. State Health Insurance Programs (SHIPs), which provide a range of valuable services, help beneficiaries select quality prescription drug plans, identify additional financial help with their drug costs, and resolve general enrollment difficulties.

This year, CMS supported the outreach work of SHIPs with a \$30 million allotment. Despite this funding, there still remains a great need to raise further awareness about the new Part D benefit among beneficiaries and provide them assistance with selecting an